

David the Shepherd

**BUILDING
BLOCKS**

SEARCHING FOR THE KING

King Saul may have been Israel's first king, but he didn't live like an "anointed one" of God. So, the LORD told Samuel:

"Fill your horn with oil, and go. I will send you to Jesse the Bethlehemite, for I have provided for myself a _____ among his sons." (1 Samuel 16:1)

When Samuel arrived, Jesse's seven oldest sons passed before him, but neither one was **THE** one.

Then Samuel said to Jesse, "Are all your sons here?" And he said, "There remains yet the youngest, but behold, he is keeping the _____." (1 Samuel 16:11)

The name of Jesse's youngest son was **David** and David was a **shepherd**. What sort of things would a shepherd **DO**? Listen to what David said when he was about to fight the Philistine giant Goliath:

David said to Saul, "Your servant used to keep sheep for his father. And when there came a lion, or a bear, and took a lamb from the flock, I went after him and struck him and _____ out of his mouth." (1 Samuel 17:34-35)



David was exactly the sort of person God could use to write something as beautiful as **Psalms 23**:

The _____ is my shepherd; I shall not want.

He makes _____ lie down in green pastures.

He leads me beside still waters. (Psalm 23:1-2)

But what does this have to do with our search for our King? Of all the places for our King to be born? "The city of David, which is called _____" (Luke 2:4). Who first heard about Jesus' birth? "In the same region there were _____ out in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night" (Luke 2:8). Jesus is the greatest shepherd of all!

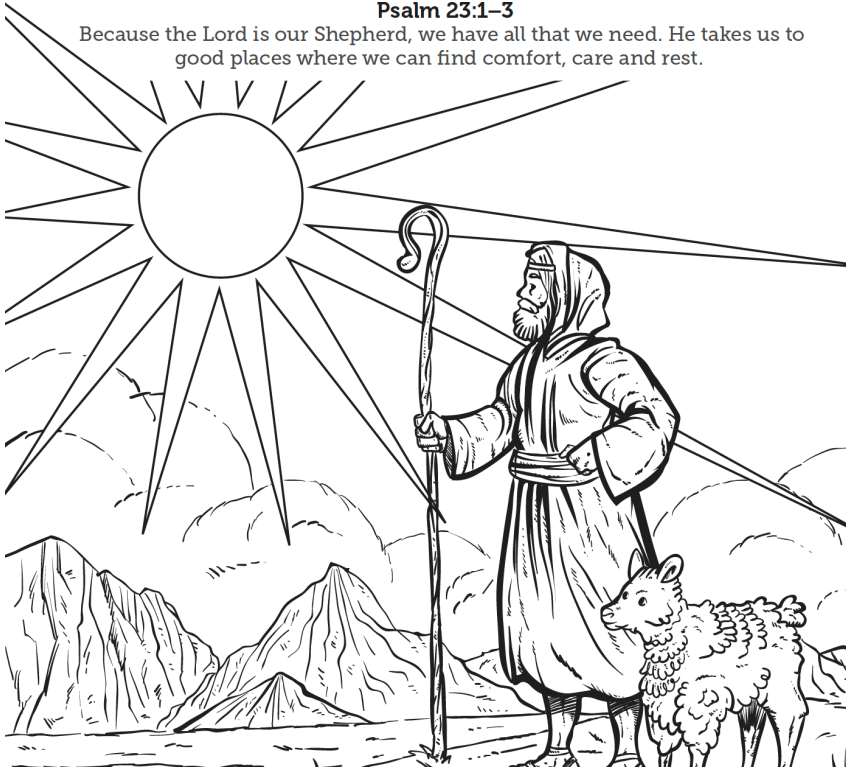
FOUNDATION STONES



Do you know **Psalm 23** by heart? It's a great psalm to memorize! Let's find it in our Bibles and read it together.

Psalm 23:1-3

Because the Lord is our Shepherd, we have all that we need. He takes us to good places where we can find comfort, care and rest.



John 10:11

Like David who rescued one of his little lambs from the attack of a lion, Jesus the Shepherd freely lays down His life for us. The enemy might try to kill and destroy, but Jesus came to bring us life in abundance.

In **John 10:1-18**, Jesus described himself as **"the good shepherd."** What did he mean by that? How is Jesus, our King, an even greater shepherd than David?

